



Congressman Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Hospitals and Providers Relief Fact Sheet
Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act



Health Care Capacity

- \$100 billion for hospitals, public entities, not-for-profits, and Medicare and Medicaid enrolled suppliers and institutional providers to cover unreimbursed health care-related expenses or lost revenues attributable to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Increased payments to hospitals for treating a patient admitted with COVID-19 by 20 percent. Specifically, the weighting factor of diagnosis-related groups (DRGs) for patients diagnosed with COVID-19 is increased by 20 percent. This add-on payment is available through the duration of the federally declared COVID-19 emergency period.
- Temporarily lifts the Medicare sequester, which reduces payments to providers by 2 percent, from May 1 through December 31, 2020, boosting payments for hospital, physician, nursing home, home health, and other care.
- Delays reductions in Medicaid disproportionate share hospital payments to November 30, 2020.
- More than \$27 billion for the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority to support research and development of vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics to prevent or treat the effects of coronavirus, including:
 - \$16 billion for the Strategic National Stockpile for critical medical supplies, personal protective equipment, and life-saving medicine.
 - At least \$3.5 billion to advance construction, manufacturing, and purchase of vaccines and therapeutics to the American people.
- \$4.3 billion within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to support federal, state, and local public health agencies to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus.

Visit the [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Coronavirus](#) website to learn more.

Access to Testing and Treatment

- Requires private insurers and Medicare to cover coronavirus treatment and prevention.
- Requires diagnostic test providers to make the price for the coronavirus test publicly available on the internet.
- Requires Medicare to allow fills and refills of prescription drugs for up to 3-month supply during the emergency.
- Makes a technical correction to the first COVID-19 response package to ensure coverage of diagnostic testing for Medicaid patients.
- Provides free coverage without cost-sharing of a COVID-19 preventive service or vaccine when either becomes available.

Questions can be answered by calling Congressman Pascrell's **Paterson office at (973) 523-5152** and **Washington, D.C. office at (202) 225-5751**.

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